

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7, 18-20, 24, and 25 are presently active in this case. Claims 8-17, 21-23, 26, and 27 have been canceled by way of the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Publication No. 11-345780 to Kazuyoshi et al; Claims 1-4, 6-11, 14, 16, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kazuyoshi et al in view of Japanese Publication No. 09-272965 to Michio et al; Claims 5, 12, 13, and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kazuyoshi et al in view of Michio et al and U.S. Patent No. 6,235,120 to Bang et al; and Claims 18-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Michio et al in view of Kazuyoshi et al.

First, Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the courtesy of an interview granted to Applicants' attorney on April 10, 2003 at which time the subject invention was explained in light of Applicants' disclosure, the outstanding issues were discussed, and arguments substantially as hereinafter developed were presented. The Examiner noted that Rz of Kazuyoshi et al. and Rv and Rp of Applicants' claims are different. The Examiner stated that he would reconsider his position regarding Rz based on the Japanese industrial standard before him since it was misconstrued in the March 19, 2003 Office Action.

Briefly recapitulating, a component of a vacuum deposition apparatus (a component body) according to the present invention (Claim 1) is characterized in that a surface roughness of the spray deposit formed on a surface of the component body is provided by a mean spacing S of tops of local peaks of a profile of surface roughness, a distance from a

mean line to a bottom of profile valley line R_v, and a distance from a mean line to a top of profile peak line R_p.

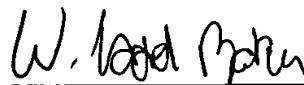
As concluded during the interview, Kazuyoshi et al. (JP 11-345780) disclose a vacuum deposition apparatus having a "member which constitutes the interior of a reaction container" (member) of which surface roughness is provided by "ten-point means roughness R_z" and "a mean interval S of local ridges." As shown in paragraph [0016] and Fig. 4 of Kazuyoshi et al., "ten-point means roughness R_z" is the average of the distance of the summit of the mountain and the distance of the bottom of a thread. Hence, Applicants respectfully submit that Kazuyoshi et al.'s average is patentably distinct from the distance feature of the present invention. That is, Kazuyoshi et al. do not disclose nor suggest the subject matter defined by Claim 1 of the present invention.

Dependent Claims 2-7 are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as Claim 1. The vacuum deposition apparatus defined by Claims 18 to 20 and the target apparatus defined by Claims 24 and 25 include, inter alia, the same features defined by Claim 1. Hence, Claims 18-20, 24, and 25 are also believed to be allowable.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599
W. Todd Baker
Registration No. 45,265



22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413 -2220

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